

DEPARTMENT of the INTERIOR

news release

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

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McGarvey 202/343-5634

BABY WALRUS PICKUP PROPOSED

An application to collect eight baby Pacific walruses from coastal Alaskan waters for public display by Sea World, Inc., of San Diego, will be the subject of a public hearing on April 9, Interior's Fish and Wildlife Service announced recently in the Federal Register. Federal permits and full public discussion of the application are required under the Marine Mammal Protection Act of 1972.

The purpose of the hearing will be to obtain public comment on the Sea World proposal for collection, transportation, and eventual use of the Pacific walruses for aquarium purposes.

Documents submitted by Sea World, Inc. are available for public inspection during normal working hours at the Fish and Wildlife Service, Law Enforcement Division, Suite 600, 1612 K Street, N.W., Washington, D.C., and at the office of the Regional Director, Fish and Wildlife Service, 1500 Plaza Building, 1500 N.E. Irving Street, Portland, Oregon 97208.

The public may comment on this application at the hearing at 9:30 a.m., April 9, 1974, California State Building, Room B-109, 1350 Front Street, San Diego, California. Interested persons may comment on the application in writing by submitting triplicate copies to the Director, FWS/LE, Fish and Wildlife Service, U.S. Department of the Interior, Washington, D.C. 20240. All comments received by April 26, 1974, will be considered.

After the public hearing and consideration of all comments, a decision on the permit will be made and public announcement published in the Federal Register.

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